

# CITY OF WILMINGTON

## NORTH CAROLINA

CITY OF WILMINGTON PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

Winter 2014

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Citizen input on city's future

*Special insert -*

2013 City progress report

### State of the City Address

Jan. 27, 5:30 p.m. at City Hall  
102 North 3rd Street

Live on the web and GTV:  
wilmingtonnc.gov  
Time Warner Cable Ch. 8

Tune in to learn more about  
improvements the city has  
made over the past year and  
get a glimpse of what's  
coming up in the future.

### City Manager holds community conversations about gang violence

**A**long with several new enforcement initiatives that have already begun to reduce violent crimes, the City of Wilmington is partnering with key agencies to host a series of community conversations to get input about strategies that can be implemented to help reduce criminal and gun-related violence in our community. Those partners include local law enforcement, New Hanover County, Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, UNCW, CFCC and the Cape Fear United Way. From these sessions, a series of recommendations for action by public policy makers, including elected officials and leaders of private corporations and non-profits, will be generated.

Three meetings have already been held with hundreds of citizens participating and additional meetings are being held in January and February before the recommendations are finalized.

#### Volunteer opportunities

According to feedback received so far - including input from former gang members - one of the most effective methods to help combat violence committed by at-risk young people is to simply spend time with them



*First community conversation held at  
City Hall in November*

and serve as positive role models. There are many local volunteer opportunities available, including several through the Wilmington Police Department.

See page 2 for details.

 [wilmingtonnc.gov/nonviolence](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/nonviolence)

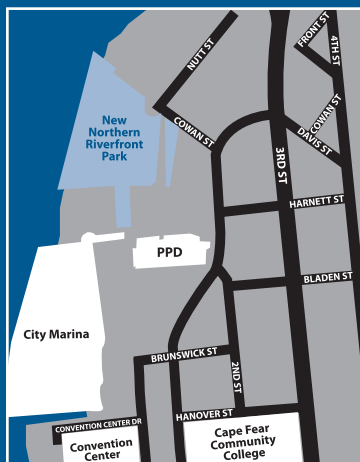


### Check the back

Want to find out how to help  
the environment by receiving  
this newsletter by email?

Want to learn more about the  
city on Facebook or Twitter?

Check out the back panel of  
this newsletter to find out more.



## Citizen volunteer opportunities

Along with law enforcement efforts, Wilmington Police Department personnel spend thousands of hours each year on crime prevention efforts. Many WPD employees volunteer for community organizations that provide support for at-risk youth. Listed below are a few of the volunteer opportunities coordinated by the WPD that citizens can participate in:

### Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) Hoops

P.A.L. Hoops uses sports as a tool to promote gang resistance and awareness. Local youth are coached by area law enforcement in a competitive basketball season to build a bond that extends off court.

### Midnight Basketball

Midnight Basketball provides opportunities for late night basketball for area youth ages 12-18 each Friday night throughout the summer break from school. The program's intent is to reduce juvenile crime and prevent gang activities in the inner-city at times when criminal activity is most likely to occur.

### U-Turn Project

U-turn is a program that encourages positive choices among people who have been involved in crime, or are at risk of crime. Community volunteers who can serve as good role models spend time during their lunch hour or at a special U-turn event to engage in meaningful dialogue with at risk individuals.

### Boots on the Ground

The WPD has formed a network with area faith-based partners who are involved in a variety of activities, including holding prayer walks through troubled communities, serving as mentors for individuals transitioning back into society after being in jail, and coordinating the Midnight Basketball program.



### Other agencies WPD employees are involved in that offer volunteer opportunities include:

- Community Boys & Girls Club
- Brigade Boys & Girls Club
- DC Virgo Academy
- Williston Middle School
- Phoenix Employment Ministries
- Big Buddy Program
- New Hanover County Blue Ribbon Commission on the Prevention of Youth Violence
- NHC Smart Start



Anyone interested in any of these programs can call or email the WPD's Community Relations Officer Linda Rawley at:

910-341-4608 or [Linda.rawley@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:Linda.rawley@wilmingtonnc.gov)



## Randall Parkway, new riverwalk section complete

The Randall Parkway widening project is finishing up this month. The widening of Randall helps alleviate heavy traffic on nearby Kerr Avenue and College Road and adds capacity for future traffic growth. The \$6 million project also included extending the Gary Shell Cross-City Trail from just past the Randall pond bridge to Marlboro Drive, adding bike lanes on both sides of the road between Collegiate Drive and College Road, and installing improved infrastructure for stormwater drainage.

Work is also complete on a new 1000-foot section of the riverwalk just north of the Convention Center. The new section will be open to the public this month.

In addition, construction has begun on an 1100-foot section north of the marina and is expected to be complete this year.

When a final short 300-foot connection is completed as part of a privately owned development later this year, the riverwalk will then be 1.75 miles long, extending continuously from Chandler's Wharf to the Isabel Holmes Bridge.





# PARTICIPATE TO CREATE | WILMINGTON

## Citizens give input about Wilmington's future

After several neighborhood planning meetings involving hundreds of citizens and numerous ideas and comments provided online so far, the city is beginning to see some trends in how citizens think Wilmington should grow and plan for the future.

The city is developing a long-term plan for growth to help deal with coming social and demographic changes that will change the face of Wilmington. The city has been divided into 12 general planning areas with public input meetings planned for each one. So far, five meetings have been held, with several more scheduled this winter and spring. Here's what residents are telling the city so far:

### What citizens like most about their neighborhood:

- Parks, natural areas, trails, trees, and open spaces
- Residential character and family atmosphere
- Neighborhood
- Neighborhood schools
- Entertainment venues



*Pine Valley meeting held at Pine Valley Elementary School.*

### What citizens would most like to change:

- Better traffic calming in their neighborhoods
- More crosswalks, sidewalks and bike lanes
- Increased safety with improved lighting, signage and more police patrols
- Reduced crime, code violations and littering
- Improved traffic flow on major roadways

### Most common "Big Ideas" from citizens:

- More parks and recreation opportunities
- More sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, trails, and corridor crossings
- More neighborhood businesses and mixed-use developments
- Improved traffic flow on major roadways
- Improved streetscapes



*Old East Wilmington meeting held at Maides Park Community Center.*

### How you can get involved?

Attend the next neighborhood planning meeting. Meeting times and dates, along with more information, are available at: [Createwilmington.com](http://Createwilmington.com)

Can't come to one of the neighborhood meetings? No problem, join us for an online conversation!

### SIGNING UP IS AS EASY AS

- 1 Visit [connectwilmington.org](http://connectwilmington.org)
- 2 Sign-up through e-mail or Facebook
- 3 Share your photo or idea

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## New carts result in expansion of city's recycling program

Since the City of Wilmington provided new blue recycling carts last year, the number of citizens who choose to take part in the city's voluntary recycling program has significantly increased. Before the program, fewer than half of all city trash customers recycled. Now, more than 80 percent of all customers are recycling. That's an increase of about 63 percent since the carts were delivered in November 2012.

In addition, the amount of material being recycled has increased by 25 percent from November 2012 to November 2013. Not only is recycling better for the environment, it also saves money. It costs the city \$59 per ton to put trash in the county landfill, versus \$20 per ton to recycle it.

City trash customers began receiving the new blue recycling carts in November 2012 and the bi-weekly recycling schedule began in January 2013, saving the city approximately \$220,000 in manpower costs each year.

Want to know which weeks your recycling will be picked up this year? Be sure to check out the 2014 calendar available at:

 [wilmingtonnc.gov/recycling](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/recycling)



City of Wilmington  
P.O. Box 1810  
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Wilmington, NC 28402

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The Public  
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recycled paper.

### Wilmington City Council

Mayor and City Council .....341-7815  
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Margaret E. Haynes, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Neil Anderson  
Kevin O'Grady  
Laura W. Padgett  
Charles H. Rivenbark, Jr.  
Earl Sheridan, Ph.D.

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City Manager .....341-7810  
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[newsletter@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:newsletter@wilmingtonnc.gov) or mail us:  
Communications Office, P.O. Box 1810,  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1810

### General Information Phone Numbers

Citizen Services Information .....341-7800  
Emergency .....911  
Police/Non-Emergency .....343-3600  
To find the police district assigned to your neighborhood,  
see [wilmingtonnc.gov/police](http://wilmingtonnc.gov/police)  
Fire/Non-Emergency.....341-7846  
Parks and Recreation .....341-7855  
Parks Hotline .....341-7852  
Street Maintenance.....341-7879  
Parking.....762-5678  
Zoning.....254-0900  
Trash pickup/Recycling.....341-7875  
Stormwater .....341-4646  
Cape Fear Public Utility Authority .....332-6550  
Code Enforcement .....341-3266

Look for the  for information

### Want to receive this newsletter by email?

In an effort to save money and trees, citizens  
can sign up to receive this newsletter by email  
instead of direct mail. If you are interested,  
please email the city with your name and  
regular mailing address to:

[newsletter@wilmingtonnc.gov](mailto:newsletter@wilmingtonnc.gov)

### City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are generally held on  
the first and third Tuesday of the month at  
6:30 p.m. at City Hall. For more information,  
see the city's web site at: [wilmingtonnc.gov](http://wilmingtonnc.gov)

### City Council Meetings on GTV8

Council meetings are broadcast live on GTV8,  
the city channel on Timewarner Cable. Council  
meetings are replayed:

- ~ Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, the week of  
the Council meeting at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- ~ Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, the week after  
the Council meeting at 11:30 p.m.

### This Week From City Hall

Catch a summary of city events and activities on  
GTV8's "This Week From City Hall," airing twice  
daily at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. New episodes are  
available monthly.

### GTV8 online

All GTV8 programming can be found on the city's  
website, live or on-demand. From the front page,  
simply click on "online videos." Then, select the  
program you want to watch.



The city on the web  
[wilmingtonnc.gov](http://wilmingtonnc.gov)



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[@WilmingtonPD](https://twitter.com/WilmingtonPD) (police department)  
[@WilmingtonFD](https://twitter.com/WilmingtonFD) (fire department)